

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**  
**U.S. PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 10/044,923**  
**ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 23452-507**  
**CLIENT REFERENCE NO. LOT9-2002-0001-US1**

A2  
Cmold.  
application: (1) U.S. Patent Application No. 09/401,581, entitled METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROFILING USERS BASED ON THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH CONTENT TOPICS, filed Sept. 22, 1999; (2) U.S. Patent Application No. 10/045,059 entitled METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROFILING USERS BASED ON THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH CONTENT TOPICS, filed January 15, 2002; (3) U.S. Patent Application No. 10/044,921 entitled SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MINING A USER'S ELECTRONIC MAIL MESSAGES TO DETERMINE THE USER'S AFFINITIES, filed January 15, 2002; (4) U.S. Patent Application No. 10/044,922 entitled SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CALCULATING A USER AFFINITY, filed January 15, 2002; and (5) U.S. Patent Application No. 10/044,914 entitled SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR IMPLEMENTING A METRICS ENGINE FOR TRACKING RELATIONSHIPS OVER TIME, filed January 15, 2002.

---

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please add new claim 12 as follows:

N.E.  
--12. The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of determining whether there is a particular affinity publication policy that is associated with the user.--